Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00
NRC-05 /072 W
----------033222 100513Z /13
R 091400Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1167
INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: NMUC, NATO, IT
SUBJECT: DEFENSE MINISTER ANSWERS PARLIAMENTARY QUERY ON ADMS

REF: A) ROME 17335, B) 77 ROME 20056 (NOTAL)

1. DEFENSE MINISTER RUFFINI'S RESPONSE TO A PARLIAMENTARY QUERY ON ADMS IN ITALY WAS REPORTED IN MARCH 8 EDITIONS OF SEVERAL ITALIAN NEWSPAPERS. THE QUERY, A PARLIAMENTARY INTERPELLATION OF THE MINISTER, WAS PUT BY THREE PCI SENATORS IN OCTOBER, 1977 AND HAD TWO PARTS: A. ARE US ATOMIC DEMOLITION MUNITIONS TEAMS PRESENT IN ITALY?
B. IF SO, WHAT IS THE GOI ATTITUDE TO THE QUESTIONS OF "PRE-CHAMBERING" AND "PRE-DELEGATION"? (SEE REFTELS FOR DETAILS OF QUERY.)

2. RUFFINI'S RESPONSE TO PART A WAS THAT NATO SECURITY REGULATIONS FORBID ANY COMMENT WHATSOEVER ON THE LOCATION OR TYPE OF AMERICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN NATO COUNTRIES.
WITH RESPECT TO PRE-CHAMBERING, THE MINISTER EXPLAINED WHAT IT MEANS AND STATED THAT BEFORE IT COULD BE DONE,
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THE UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF NATO MEMBERS WOULD BE REQUIRED.
RUFFINI DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF PRE-DELEGATION FOR ANY KIND OF US NUCLEAR WEAPON.

3. PRESS COVERAGE OF THE STORY WAS GENERALLY STRAIGHT-FORWARD; ONLY LEFTIST "LA REPUBBLICA" CHARACTERIZED RUFFINI'S REPLY AS "AMBIGUOUS." HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, TEXT, PRESS CONFERENCES, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ROME04398
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780107-0643
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780387/aaaacvvn.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 78 ROME 17335, 77 ROME 20056
Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
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To: STATE
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